DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 281 563 IR 051 915

AUTHOR	Weaver, Barbara F.
TITLE	Vision 2000. Looking Ahead at New Jersey Libraries. A Report to the Commissioner of Education Projecting the Status of Library Service in New Jersey by the Year 2000.
INSTITUTION	New Jersey State Dept. of Education, Trenton.
REPORT NO	PTM-no.500.53
PUB DATE	Feb 86
NOTE	59p.
PUB TYPE	Viewpoints (120) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Access to Information; Blindness; Disabilities; Elementary Secondary Education; Financial Support; Institutional Libraries; *Library Networks; *Library Planning; *Library Services; Public Libraries; School Libraries; Special Libraries; *State Libraries
IDENTIFIERS	*Library Development; *New Jersey

ABSTRACT

This document examines the various factors that affect library services in New Jersey, projects the status of the statewide system in the year 2000, and examines the implications for action by the State Library and the Department of Education. Listings of members of the State Board of Education and the Division of the State Library Advisory Council are provided, and societal trends affecting libraries and the development of library service in New Jersey to 1985 are described. A section on goals for library service in New Jersey includes a discussion of the present status, future plans, and implications for action for the following five major goal areas: (1) development and maintenance of basic library services, including public libraries, school media centers, academic libraries, institutional libraries, and special libraries; (2) access to library materials and information and the statewide library network; (3) State Library services, including research services, statewide library development, and service to blind and physically handicapped residents; (4) funding; and (5) planning. Finally, assumptions underlying future projections and issues of concern over the next 15 years are summarized, and the status of the five goal areas in the year 2000 is projected. References are also provided. (KM)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED281563

IR

IR051915

VISION 2000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☒ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

Looking Ahead at New Jersey Libraries

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

L.F. Price

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

DIVISION of STATE LIBRARY

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

VISION 2000

LOOKING AHEAD AT

NEW JERSEY LIBRARIES

A Report to the Commissioner of Education

projecting the status of

library service in New Jersey

by the year 2000

by

Barbara F. Weaver

Assistant Commissioner/State Librarian

PTM no. 500.53

February 1986

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

John T. Klagholz
President

James Jones
Vice President

S. David Brandt

Maud Dahme

Betty A. Dean

Mateo F. DeCardenas

Anne S. Dillman

Alice A. Holzapfel

Robert Marik

Nancy Schaenen

James M. Seabrook, Sr.

Deborah P. Wolfe (Representing State Board of Higher Education)

Saul Cooperman, Commissioner of Education
Secretary

T. Edward Hollander, Chancellor of Higher Education
Ex Officio

DIVISION OF THE STATE LIBRARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Frank N. Elliott
Chairperson

Renee Swartz
Vice Chairperson

Doris L. Beck

Judith Nudelman

Valerie C. Perrine

Lois Petrilak

John M. Sherry

Barbara F. Weaver, Assistant Commissioner of Education and State Librarian
Secretary

Saul Cooperman, Commissioner of Education
Ex Officio

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	1
Societal Trends Affecting Libraries	5
Development of Library Service in New Jersey to 1985	9
Goals for Library Service in New Jersey	17
Conclusions	45
Projections of Library Services in New Jersey	53
References	55

INTRODUCTION

There is little in library literature that predicts what libraries of the future will be like. What there is concentrates heavily on the potential impact of computers on traditional methods of delivering library services. Most documentation of change in library operations or structures relates to what has happened rather than what will happen. Yet there are certain trends that will undoubtedly have marked impact on the library of the future.

In New Jersey we have seen remarkable changes in the quantity and variety of library services available to New Jersey residents over the past 20 years. For example, in 1965 there was no such thing as state aid to public libraries, and federal aid had only the year before been extended to benefit all residents (until 1964, aid was limited to rural areas). Many public libraries, especially those in rural areas, operated for limited hours by untrained staff and received inadequate funding to operate effectively. There was no formal mechanism by which individuals could access materials or information in libraries other than their own local library.

In 1967, the first New Jersey state library aid law (N.J.S.A. 18:74) was passed. This law authorized the payment of state aid to public libraries on a per capita basis, and to selected libraries that would contract with the State Library to provide supplementary services to local libraries.

Also during the 1960s, the federal Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) brought needed library development money into the state. The role of the State Library in guiding the development of library service statewide was broadened considerably with the requirement for administration of both state and federal funds. Standards for public libraries were developed and made part of the requirements for receipt of state aid. Guidelines for development of school media centers (staffing, materials, services, budgets) were developed and promulgated. Federal ESEA funds were used to encourage improvement of school media centers to serve as models for other such centers.

The 1970s brought a corresponding increase in library activity as community colleges were established in most of the state's counties. At the

same time, the state colleges became stronger and more comprehensive in scope. The rapid growth in library resources during this period led to questions as to the adequacy of the library system that had been put into place during the 1960s. Also, there developed growing awareness of the significance of the various societal changes (computerization, the "graying of America," television, illiteracy) which are described later in this report.

We are now on the threshold of more major changes in the New Jersey library system. New legislation passed in 1984 authorized the State Library to set up and operate a statewide multitype library network. Other legislation passed in 1985 added several new state aid categories, including aid for non-print media services, services to people living in institutions, library collection development, and conservation and preservation of library materials. At the federal level, LSCA has been reauthorized for another five years, has been modified to give greater emphasis on resource sharing and networking and is funded at the highest level in its history. On the other hand ESEA no longer exists, and community development block grant money rarely reaches school libraries.

In this report, we examine the various factors which affect library service in New Jersey and project what the statewide system will look like in the year 2000. We also examine the implications for action by the State Library and the overall Department of Education if we are to see this vision as reality.

SOCIETAL TRENDS AFFECTING LIBRARIES

The societal trends identified by John Naisbitt in his best-selling Megatrends[1] will certainly affect libraries as well as other institutions. Of the 10 megatrends described by Naisbitt, the ones likely to have the greatest effect on libraries are:

1. Industrial Society to Information Society

Although libraries have traditionally been collectors and purveyors of information, the commercial value of information is now so great that libraries can expect to participate in only a small proportion of the information market.

2. Forced Technology to High Tech/High Touch

Libraries, like other institutions, will convert their operations to a far more technologically sophisticated format. At the same time, the traditional role of libraries as community centers and locations where there can be one-on-one interactions between an information broker and an information seeker will be enhanced.

3. Centralization to Decentralization

In New Jersey, local autonomy is highly prized. Libraries in New Jersey are fully autonomous, locally controlled units. In the past, it appeared that mergers of agencies would be necessary if economics of service or more effective operations were to be achieved. It is becoming obvious that dramatic improvements can be attained through technology, without loss of local control. Decentralized service, with linkages to state, national and even international resources, is now possible.

4. Institutional Help to Self-Help

Again, advances in technology mean that libraries will have access to a wide variety of information sources online, and that individuals can tap into these sources at home through their own computer terminals, either by direct subscription or by some connections with their local library. Many kinds of information or materials now requiring the intervention of a professional librarian will be accessible directly by an individual.

5. Hierarchies to Networking

Not only is technology breaking down traditional structures by which people acquire information. There is also a need for people to interact regularly to solve problems, connect disparate systems, and plan for and carry through needed changes. Libraries already have modified long-standing procedures for handling information flow as computerized data bases allow direct access to locations that formerly had to be reached through cumbersome referrals. Library resources are now being shared by institutions whose staff members have learned to negotiate to protect their institutions' rights while making materials available on the most generous possible basis.

Two other trends that are already affecting libraries are the "graying of America" and the pervasive problem of illiteracy. As the average age of the population of the United States rises, more and more library resources will need to be directed to this segment of the community.

More services will be geared to older Americans, while their expertise and free time will be tapped to benefit the entire community. New Jersey is now second only to Florida as the state to which people retire. Libraries will need to consider allocating their resources equitably between older people and younger people, who will increasingly be a minority.

It is currently estimated that one out of five adult (over 25) residents of New Jersey cannot read. Librarians and adult educators have taken an early leadership position in addressing this problem; however, projections indicate that unless major resources are devoted to the problem over the next decade, its magnitude will not decrease. Libraries will play an increasingly important role in fighting illiteracy. At the same time the traditional clientele of libraries may be decreased if significant inroads are not made into reducing illiteracy.

DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARY SERVICE IN NEW JERSEY TO 1985

> In the library is the diary of humanity, the autobiography of man, the record of all that he has done, of all his imaginings, all of his experiments, failure and success alike. Here is the . . . wisdom which, applied but for one day, would change our imperfect society into one better than we can fashion out of dreams.[2]
>
> John Cotton Dana

No review of the history of libraries in New Jersey can proceed far without a look at the many contributions of John Cotton Dana. He came to New Jersey in 1902, to serve as Director of the Newark Public Library, a post which he held until his death in 1929. There is no need to list his many achievements, for others have done so in more detail than this brief chapter allows, but no vision of twenty-first century libraries in New Jersey would be complete without an understanding of the libraries of the twentieth century. And no one figures more prominently in determining the twentieth century guidelines for libraries than Dana.

Through his efforts, Newark Public Library became a nationally recognized treasure house of information. While Dana emphasized the need for

maintaining a strong classics collection, he was equally, if not more, emphatic in his recommendation that libraries become "first and foremost the informational centers of their communities." Today, New Jersey libraries continue today to seek to fullfill this goal, in ways perhaps not anticipated by Dana.

Interestingly enough, the one hundredth anniversary of Dana's birth occurred in 1956, marked by Newark with a large celebration, honoring this visionary for his development of the Newark Public Library. While there may be no direct relationship between the honors accorded Dana that year and the action taken on the state and national levels, it is nevertheless curious that it was at this time that Congress passed the first Library Services Act and a New Jersey commission, formed in 1954 by Governor Robert Meyner, published its study, Better Libraries for New Jersey: Final Report of the Commission to Study Library Services in New Jersey.[3]

As a result of the findings of this commission, new legislation was enacted in 1959, establishing the first state aid program for New Jersey public libraries

and making it possible for two or more libraries to join to provide library service which individually they could not offer. This was just the beginning.

By 1964 a new report on the development of New Jersey libraries had been prepared. Guided by the New Jersey Library Association's Library Development Committee, Lowell A. Martin and Mary V. Gaver prepared Libraries for the People of New Jersey or Knowledge for All.[4] This report pointed to the fact that although "the library is the educational source for all, old and young," a statewide survey showed "repeated and serious shortcomings in provision of this educational resource." The Martin/Gaver Report set forth minimum standards for libraries and recommended that New Jersey libraries seek to achieve two goals:

1. A coordinated network of library service over the state.
2. Adequate financing of libraries by both the local sources of revenue and the state government.

Organization of the network came in 1965 with the creation of a three-level pyramid of service. At the base of this pyramid was the local library.

Informational requests unmet at the local level could be referred to an area library (Although several years would pass before all parts of the state were served by an "Area Library," there would ultimately be 26 area libraries serving as back-up resources for local libraries.) In turn, an area library would refer its unanswered queries to one of four research libraries, the third or top level. Two years later (1967), new state aid legislation established a legal basis for the network and provided funding. (During the interim years, network funds were provided by the federal Library Services and Construction Act.)

Throughout the following decade, library service in New Jersey showed a marked improvement. The number of libraries complying with state aid standards more than doubled. Links between local libraries and major collections in the state were firmly established. Increased state aid provided support for the developing network. The development of the community college system provided an additional access point for services.

Still, certain areas of weakness emerged as the plan created under Martin/Gaver developed, specifically, the instability of county library funding, the conflicting roles of county/area libraries, lack of categorical aid for other than public libraries, and the limitations of funding of both area libraries and research library centers, to name a few.

Studies of library needs and services in New Jersey continued, and in 1977 the Library Development Committee of the New Jersey Library Association, which had continued to study ways to improve library service in the state, published additional findings in Networks for Knowledge; or, Mobilizing Libraries for the People of New Jersey.[5] Two years later a Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, held as a forerunner to a White House Conference, gave state residents an opportunity to voice their opinions about libraries. Among the 31 resolutions adopted by the conference delegate were recommendations for:

1. a statewide library card and a national library card;
2. a multitype network;

3. use of technological developments and adequate funding to support the new automation which would result;

4. barrier-free access to all libraries;

5. state aid based on community needs assessment with services tied to identified needs.

There are, of course, a number of other recommendations, including the establishment of firm state aid formulas and the creation of a statewide public relations program.

Following the Governor's Conference, State Librarian Barbara Weaver convened a widely representative committee from among the Conference delegates (including both lay and professional) and charged it with creating a new state plan for service which would reflect the concerns expressed. The result was A Developing State Plan for Library Services (January 1980).[6] Eight specific areas of concern were identified with the recommendation that a statewide task force be established to consider each of the following:

1. A new network structure.
2. Standards for all types of libraries.
3. Funding patterns.
4. Automation.
5. Statewide library card.
6. Statewide Friends of Libraries.
7. Public Relations.
8. Professional Development.

Also published in 1980 was the County and Municipal Government Study Commission report, The Development of Libraries and Networks: Prospective Roles and Responsibilities.[7] This report confirmed that a number of problems faced library development in New Jersey and identified five "pressures for change," namely, the lack of adequate funding, limited access to library services, limited ability to handle the explosive increases in the amounts and types of informational material being generated, benefits from statewide resource sharing, and availability of technology. A summary of the report's recommendations follows:

1. Improve overall financial support for public libraries.
2. Establish in state law an education mission for school libraries.
3. Make public library governance more accountable to local elected officials.
4. Address the organization of county library systems by making several reorganization options available in law.
5. Revise substantially the structure and functions of the New Jersey Library Network.
6. Establish new library aid programs both to offset rising costs of operation and to improve the library development process in the state.
7. Create coordination in planning for libraries between the state departments of Education and Higher Education.

With a wide variety of studies available, the task forces set up in 1980 began to work on the development of new resolutions to the problems identified. The Statewide Planning Group, largely responsible for the Developing State Plan, met regularly to monitor and review task force activities. By 1982 a package of library legislation had been prepared and introduced to the legislature.

The most significant piece of legislation, the library network bill, was signed into law by Governor Thomas Kean on January 17, 1984. This legislation set the stage for the creation of a new network.

GOALS FOR LIBRARY SERVICE IN NEW JERSEY

A mission statement and a series of goals for library service in New Jersey were produced in 1980 as part of the process leading to A Developing State Plan for Library Services. The five major goal areas were:

1. Development and Maintenance of Basic Library Services
2. Access/Networking
3. The State Library
4. Funding
5. Planning

Of these five goal areas, the first two relate to services, and the other three concern the process by which the first two are to be achieved. In this section, the present status of each of the goal areas, plans for the future and implications for action will be discussed.

Goal Area #1: Development and Maintenance of Basic Library Services

There are national -- and in some cases state -- standards or guidelines for minimum levels of library services to be provided by all five types of libraries

(academic, institution, public, school and special). Depending on the governance structure and funding sources, these standards are enforced to varying degrees by various agencies. In New Jersey, minimum standards for public libraries are specified in the New Jersey Administrative Code as a requirement for receipt of state aid. School media centers are evaluated as part of the overall school monitoring process conducted by the Department of Education. Academic libraries are evaluated in a similar fashion as part of the Middle States Accreditation process. There are national standards for institution libraries and for various types of special libraries (e.g., state libraries, libraries serving the blind and physically handicapped), but there is little effort on either a national or state level to see that most special libraries meet any types of standards. Only where state or national funding is involved are standards enforced.

Public Libraries

Since the passage and funding of the State Library Aid Law in 1967, an increasing number of public libraries meets all of the minimum standards for state aid. By 1984, 246 of 311 eligible libraries met all required standards. In recent years, the numbers have remained stable, with those libraries failing to meet certain requirements being primarily libraries serving very small numbers of New Jersey residents. The State Library estimates that more than 90 percent of the state's residents are served by libraries meeting all state standards. A recent study by the New Jersey Library Association[8] addressed the question of whether new requirements should be applied. Their conclusion was that the current requirements were adequate and effective in maintaining basic public library services in the state.

From the State Library's perspective, it appears that local funding of public libraries, supported as it is by the legal requirement for a minimum appropriation based on property values in the municipality, has maintained a relatively high quality of library service in most parts of the state. The recent passage of Assembly Bill 842 (now Ch.82, Sec. 1, Laws of 1985), which exempts

library appropriations from municipal caps, will provide some relief in those municipalities where the legal minimum is not sufficient and where, under the caps, the library appropriation could not increase sufficiently.

The New Jersey Library Association is contemplating introduction of a bill to revise the per capita state aid law to reflect the rise in cost of living since 1967. When the original state aid law was passed, the intent was that the state support public libraries at approximately 20 percent of their total cost. The actual figure has now, with inflation, been reduced to approximately 9.3 percent in 1985. The proposed law change would return the support level to 20 percent.

If this change in the state aid law occurs, it would seem appropriate to make some equivalent changes in the administrative code. The current code requirements are of the "input" type, i.e., appropriation, staffing, open hours, size of book collection. There is a need to specify "output" measures, e.g., proportion of residents using the library, per capita book use, program attendance. Output Measures for Public Libraries[9] could be used as a requirement for state aid.

Another problem that could be addressed through a state aid increase is librarians' salaries. Beginning salaries in some libraries are so low that it is impossible to recruit people for vacant positions. In one of the state's largest systems, the beginning salary for a professional librarian with an MLS degree is only $12,200. The New Jersey Library Association is currently focusing attention on the need to improve beginning salaries for professional librarians, and may act to have legislation introduced to accomplish this.

School Media Centers

New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 6:8-3.5) requires that all pupils have "continuous access to sufficient programs and services of a library and/or media facility, classroom collection, or both, to support the educational program." New Jersey Blueprint for School Media Services[10] is used to evaluate the adequacy of school media services during the monitoring process by the Department of Education; however, this document does not have the force of administrative code, and only the most severe inadequacies cause the monitors to warn a school district that it might receive an unsatisfactory rating because of poor school library facilities or services.

During the 1970s, when the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act was in effect, its specific provisions for funding of school library programs under Title II allowed these programs to flourish. Unfortunately, many schools funded their entire school library operation -- with the possible exception of staff salaries -- from federal funds. When ESEA was replaced with the current block grant program, which allows but does not require funds to be used for school libraries, many schools simply eliminated the materials budget. A survey done in 1982 by the State Library showed that the library materials budget in 89 school libraries, out of 177 reporting, had been reduced as a result of the elimination of ESEA Title II funds and 118 expected further reductions in 1983. In addition, 39 schools reported reductions in the number of library staff, hours open to the students, AV materials, etc.

Although the need for a high quality school media program to supplement curriculum is widely acknowledged, New Jersey presently has few safeguards to protect existing programs or to assure the phasing-in of needed programs. Legislation is needed to require quality school media programs in elementary

schools as well as secondary schools. Additional legislation (similar to that recently enacted in New York State) providing for specific state funding for school media programs would also be desirable, to assure that a minimum level of access to such programs exists in all schools. Alternatively, state regulations governing public schools should be amended to require minimum standards for staffing, collection development and availability of the program to students.

Academic Libraries

In 1980 the Department of Higher Education issued its Master Plan for Higher Education[11] which included a section on goals for the academic library program. These goals included emphasis on building strong collections in all of the publicly supported colleges and universities. Over the past 20 years the state colleges and county colleges have expanded dramatically; however, it has been difficult for them to develop their library materials collections fast enough to keep up with the needs. Plans are now being considered by the Department to allocate significant sums of state funds over the next several

years to a coordinated program of collection enhancement in the public institutions. If such plans materialize, this effort will contribute significantly to the resources available to the libraries' clientele.

Institution Libraries

Institution libraries are those that provide the equivalent of public library service to those persons not able, for whatever reason, to leave their institutionalized abode and visit their local public library. These persons may be residents of health care, mental health or correctional institutions. The State Library has for many years offered limited consultant services to state, county and local institutions to help them develop their libraries. Until recently, only a small amount of federal money has been available for this purpose ($100,000 per year). In August 1985 Governor Kean signed the Library Development Aid Law, which authorizes and appropriates state funds to support institution library services. Draft regulations have been prepared that will require a gradual phase-in of compliance with minimum standards. At present, of 135 known institution libraries, only 30 meet proposed state minimum

standards. Money appropriated via the new law will be used for per capita grants to institutions meeting minimum standards, and -- particularly in the next few years -- for development grants to encourage institutions to reach these standards. We expect that within five years all state institutions will at least qualify for state aid at the minimum standard level. The State Library also plans to fund (through federal funds) two consultant positions -- one in the Department of Corrections and one in the Department of Human Services -- on a shared basis with the departments, to provide ongoing assistance to institutions for improving their library services.

Special Libraries

No particular effort has been expended in New Jersey by the State Library to develop, establish or enforce standards for special libraries. Because of the diversity of these libraries, which include health sciences, state and local government and the wide variety of industries, a large number already have published standards of their own. Since most of the special libraries are operated by corporations to serve their own internal needs, the size and quality of the operation is determined almost exclusively by the philosophy of the company management. Although at some future time there may be some need to become involved in the development of special libraries, at present the only priority for the State Library is to provide the formation and assistance when requested by an individual library and to assist development of operational libraries in state government agencies.

The State Library itself is a special library, for which there are separate standards, revised in 1984.[12] The fact that the State Library has received favorable attention from its funding sources over the past several years, strengthens its continued ability to serve its clientele with high quality materials and attention.

Goal Area #2: Access/Networking

In January 1984, Governor Kean signed the Library Network Law, which authorizes the State Library to establish and operate a statewide, multitype library network to provide improved, speedier access by the residents of the state to needed library materials and information. Plans for the statewide network call for establishment of six regional library cooperatives, which are membership organizations composed of libraries of all five types. These organizations are responsible for determining what kinds of cooperative library services are needed in their regions and contracting with libraries or other agencies to provide those services. In addition, the law authorized the State Library to provide, or contract for, statewide services that are more appropriately offered on a statewide rather than a regional basis.

As of the end of December 1985, all six of the regional library cooperatives were recognized and were in various stages of becoming operational. State appropriations for the program have increased from the initial $125,000 in FY 1984 to $1,415,000 in FY 1986.

Direct service improvement anticipated through the regional cooperatives during the first few years will include quicker response to patron requests, wider availability of direct borrowing privileges, and access to a wider variety of materials located in all types of libraries.

Statewide, the first activities funded under the new network program were grants to the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey to subsidize interlibrary loan of health-related materials and grants to the four existing research libraries (Newark Public Library, Rutgers University Libraries, Princeton University Library and the State Library) to restore to a more realistic level reimbursement for interlibrary loan, reference and bibliographic citation services, and direct patron borrowing privileges. In September 1985 the State Library began a pilot program involving three aspects of improved service delivery: reimbursement to libraries for costs incurred in obtaining interlibrary loan materials via electronic means, reimbursement to libraries for rapid delivery of those materials and a statewide toll-free telephone service whereby libraries not directly connected to a national database can request interlibrary loans through the State Library.

Major programs already underway include addition of library holdings to the national online database (OCLC) which will eventually link all libraries in New Jersey so that library patrons can find out instantly the availability of needed materials. Legislation first introduced in the 1984-85 session would appropriate state funds for automating groups of libraries to assure that this electronic linking occurs within a reasonable time frame. The original sponsor proposed state funding of $5 million per year, to take place over the next eight years and to allow linking of libraries in all 21 counties. Rough calculations by the State Library in 1984 indicated that it would cost approximately $150 million to automate all public, academic, school and institution libraries in the state, including online catalogs, online circulation systems, and retrospective conversion of all materials holdings. Estimates of cost for automating special libraries were not included, as these are generally not subject to public funding, and automation efforts proceed in accordance with corporate priorities. Automation to this extent is not seen as necessary at this time. If elementary school libraries and public libraries serving fewer than 10,000 persons are excluded, the cost drops to about $50 million, and still allows for interconnections among libraries serving over 90 percent of the state's residents.

It is anticipated that the state would bear approximately 80 percent of the initial cost of automation, with local jurisdictions picking up the initial 20 percent plus all future operating costs. Libraries receiving state funds for the purpose of automating would be required to maintain certain standards for their records, and would be required to share both information and physical resources with other libraries in the state network. These requirements are already in place for grants made with federal funds for this purpose.

A significant development that has gained momentum over the last five years is "reciprocal borrowing" whereby library patrons may borrow materials directly from any participating public — and in some cases school or college library — without payment of non-resident fees. Currently, active programs exist in Bergen, Essex, Middlesex and Morris counties, and some reciprocal activity is encouraged between county library members in Burlington, Gloucester, Atlantic and Cape May counties. It is expected that this program will continue to grow, and that by the year 2000 libraries in the whole state will participate.

By the year 2000, the statewide multitype network will have developed to maturity. Most individual libraries will continue to exist, although the current, small, association libraries will either revert to private "reading rooms" or be absorbed into larger county library systems. The regional library cooperatives will take over many of the educational and developmental responsibilities traditionally carried out by the State Library, such as responsibility for in-service training of librarians in the region, advice and assistance in trustee relationships, collection development and personnel issues. The State Library's role with respect to the statewide network will become one of coordination of activities among regions, monitoring of regional performance, and consultation and advice to regional staff and officers rather than directly to member libraries.

The present area and research library programs will be phased out as such over the next two years, with the functions and dedicated funding being transferred to the regional library cooperatives. Transition plans are now underway for this transfer of responsibility.

By the year 2000, residents of New Jersey should be able to visit, telephone or access by electronic means a local library facility and expect to receive either the desired information, the physical material or a facsimile in less than 24 hours. Online catalogs and circulation control systems will provide location information coupled with the ability to request, reserve and order material to be delivered through a statewide rapid delivery service tied in with other states. Many materials not needed in the original hard copy format can be ordered by home phone or computer and delivered direct without the patron having to visit the library.

The physical appearance of libraries will change as well. According to John Naisbitt's Trend Letter, [13] the traditional card catalog will disappear from

most libraries by 1995 to be replaced by banks of computer terminals. Although the book will still be with us, much information will be accessed from remote locations via computer or will be stored in the library on laser disc or other yet-to-be-developed compact formats.

The distinctions between public, school and community college libraries will blur over the next decade. Their dual roles as information providers and community gathering places will be important. Public libraries now are reporting increased use of their facilities for public programs sponsored by the library. The "high-tech, high touch" needs of people will force some libraries to provide opportunities for socializing as well as learning and information gathering.

Goal Area #3: The State Library

The State Library is mandated by law to perform various functions with respect to library service in the state, including operating a research library facility for state government, coordinating and providing leadership to the statewide library network, and operating a library service for blind and physically handicapped persons. The rapid development of computerized library systems, as well as the new statewide library network, will significantly change the ways in which the State Library carries out these mandates.

The State Library as a Research Library

In the past, the State Library has been the major depository in the state of legal material, New Jersey history and genealogy, and Jerseyana, as well as significant collections in all subject areas of concerns to state government and the general public. The advent of computerized databases, together with the anticipated total computerization of the State Library's catalog and those of other libraries in the state, means that the State Library's role will evolve, probably into one with increased emphasis on assisting users to find materials

that are not physically located here. State agencies, local libraries and even individuals will be able to use their own terminals to access information in the State Library collection and often to have that information delivered to them electronically or physically at their remote location. The volume of in-house use will probably remain at about the present level, but the off-site use should increase. At the same time, former State Library users will have their own direct access to databases and will not have to use the State Library as an intermediary. A current example is LEXIS, the legal database. The State Library has a contract with LEXIS for access by not only the State Library but also any other state agency. At present only the Justice Complex has its own LEXIS terminal, but in the future other state agencies will no doubt find it more convenient to subscribe directly rather than to request this information through the State Library.

The State Library will expand its role in collecting and distributing official New Jersey documents through the New Jersey Document Depository System. The State Library not only coordinates distribution but also provides

bibliographic control of the materials, thus creating a unique database of New Jersey information.

The State Library will expand its role as trainer of users in the intricacies of data base access rather than being only the direct supplier of needed client information. The State Library staff will need to assist state agency staff in identifying what databases they should subscribe to and in learning how to use the services appropriately.

Another area of potential expansion is that of cataloging for state agencies. The proposal for an integrated library system at the State Library includes provision for access terminals at all state agency libraries. It is anticipated that the State Library will take on responsibility for cataloging holdings of all such libraries to effect cost savings and assure consistency of cataloging quality.

The State Library and Statewide Library Development

The State Library's role as centralized supplier of library consulting services will decrease as many of these functions are decentralized and transferred to the regional library cooperatives. Its role will be to provide statewide and interstate linkages and to provide a higher level of educational and in-service training programs for regional staff members who are responsible for similar activities on a local level.

The State Library will continue to be responsible for administering state and federal aid funds. Grant programs will be on a larger scale than many current programs, since computerization and networking will produce needs for large projects connecting libraries in various jurisdictions. Although this change will require staff to plan and monitor fewer projects, such staff will need greater technical and administrative expertise because of the increased complexity of the projects.

The State Library will continue to play a major role in statewide planning in all areas of library activity. This role will be central to the ongoing development of improved, effective, library service in the state.

The State Library as Provider of Service to Blind and Physically Handicapped Residents

The State Library will continue to be the central resource library for blind and physically handicapped New Jersey residents. Its role in developing local libraries as supplemental service providers will continue to increase. Within five years the library will also extend its new radio reading service, Audiovision, to the entire geographic area of the state and will reach thousands of listeners 12 hours per day, seven days per week. Computerization of the library's circulation functions has been in complete operation for several years, and is expected to continue with only necessary upgrades to take advantage of technological innovations. The new building the Library for the Blind and Handicapped occupies has been planned for the expansion of readership and services over the next 20 years.

Goal Area #4: Funding

At present, approximately 85 percent of public library funding is provided from local sources (which may be municipal or county, depending on the library's administrative structure), 10 percent from state funds, and 5 percent from federal funds. School libraries are funded through the local school district budget, which is a mix of state, local and federal funds. Publicly supported academic libraries receive their funding primarily from the state (state colleges) or the county (community colleges), with some supplemental federal funds.

At the 1979 White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services, one of the recommendations was that a desirable mix of public library funding be 50 percent local, 40 percent state, and 10 percent federal. In 1985, this mix appears unrealistic; however, for New Jersey, a mix of 75 percent local, 20 percent state, and 5 percent federal* would not be difficult to achieve, and would in fact conform to the mix anticipated when the current

* Note: There would be a different mix for public libraries and for other types of libraries. For all libraries in New Jersey, the State Library projects a mix of 65 percent local, 25 percent state, and 10 percent federal funding.

State Library aid law was enacted in 1967. If state standards for public libraries are to be maintained, it will be necessary for the state aid to be sufficiently high to make it worthwhile for the libraries to meet the standards. The present State Aid level (less than 10 percent of local funding) is dangerously low. When the next period of recession arrives, many libraries may choose to forfeit state aid rather than incurr the cost of maintaining state standards.

The New Jersey Library Association is currently considering draft legislation that would modify the present state library aid formula to reflect increases in cost of living since 1967 and to bring the proportion of state funding up to the desired 20 percent. Cost to the state of this modification would be approximately $15 million per year.

There should be a new program of state aid for school library services, based on standards that have already been accepted as guidelines in the school monitoring process. The aid formula should be on a per pupil basis, perhaps similar to the need-based formula that was used from 1965 to 1974 to distribute ESEA funds. At $2 per student, the annual cost to the state would be $3

million. This formula would support school library services at the same level as required in New York State by legislation passed in 1985.

No separate program of aid to academic libraries is contemplated, since the mechanism for adequately funding these libraries is already in place through the budgetary process of the Department of Higher Education.

The final area of state interest in library funding is that of the statewide network and development of library resources throughout the state. Current and projected areas of the state's interest include:

Library Network Law - authorizes the State Library to establish and operate a statewide, multitype library network. FY 1986 appropriation = $1,485,000. This amount is projected to increase to $5,250,000 by FY 1989. Given anticipated increases in living costs, the budget by FY 2000 will probably be around $12 million.

Area and Research Library Aid Law - appropriates a formula allocation for supplementary library services provided to local libraries. FY 1986

appropriation: area libraries - $3.1 million; research libraries - $400,000. This program will be absorbed within the library network program within the next two years.

Public Library Construction Aid Law - authorizes the State Library to make grants to public libraries to purchase, build, remodel or upgrade library buildings to modern standards. FY 1986 appropriation = $1 million. The needs for this type of aid are expected to continue at approximately the same level. If an appropriation is authorized each year and if federal library construction funds continue to be available, $1 million per year will probably be adequate, although there is a current backlog due to zero state and federal funding over most of the past ten years.

Library Development Aid Law (Chapter 297, Laws of 1985) - authorizes several new categories of state library aid: audiovisual services, services to institutionalized people, collection development, grants for maintenance of municipal branch libraries, and conservation and preservation of library

collections. Initial appropriation is $200,000. This amount is projected to increase to $2,750,000 by FY 89. By FY 2000, because of routine cost increases, the appropriation needed will probably be about $5 million.

Library Automation Incentive Act - would authorize the State Library to make grants to libraries for the purpose of automating their operations. Proposed initial appropriation - $2 to $5 million. The sponsor's intent is that this be an eight-year matching grant program to automate the vast majority of the state's libraries. By 1994 local libraries should have taken over responsibility for ongoing costs.

Goal Area #5: Planning

At the time the 1980 Developing State Plan . . . was written, the concept of a participatory planning process for statewide library service in New Jersey was very new and, therefore, its importance was seen as needing emphasis. As we progress toward the year 2000, there will no doubt be variations in the need that individuals or groups have for direct input into the planning process. It should never be forgotten, however, that the users of library service must have input into the process of developing those services.

The mechanics of how that input is to be provided have changed significantly in the five years following publication of the Developing State Plan . . . . The Statewide Library Planning Group, in its infancy in 1980, worked well for five years and by 1984 had completed its charge. Now in the process of formation is a new Library Network Review Board, charged with reviewing and making recommendations to the State Librarian concerning interactions among the six Regional Library Cooperatives, as well as needed statewide services and interstate relationships.

Other mechanisms will no doubt be established -- and abandoned -- over the next fifteen years. The important point is that the need for such mechanisms is always recognized.

CONCLUSIONS

This report has highlighted major trends and activities that will affect library services in New Jersey, has covered the history of New Jersey library development since the 1950's, and has projected the future of libraries to the year 2000. The following list summarizes the assumptions underlying these projections.

Assumptions

1) Most people have home and/or office computer access to information centers.

2) Most information needed for research is available online.

3) Most people won't know how to access specialized information without an information broker.

4) Most people will still go to their local community library for leisure reading, programs, children's books.

5) Books will still be important and a major source of information.

6) Local libraries will still serve as first access points for most people looking for information, including that available online.

7) Most people will prefer to be passive consumers of information, so will need an information broker even for less specialized info (see what's happened with TV and video games).

8) People will phone in or use their home computers to ask for answers to questions or access data banks. Libraries will do the research and transmit information to consumers at home, office, school, etc.

9) Distinctions between types of libraries (academic, school, public) as information centers will blur, because librarians will have access to all info sources through selective switching, so they can answer directly to consumer (sort of like telephone system - where caller doesn't have to interface any more with switchers).

10) We may even reach a point where a person can plug in a question and not have to interface with a human at all, except for "ancient" information that goes back to the 1980's and before.

11) However, all of this would be very expensive for an individual. Most people will still go to a librarian or information broker to sift out information needs before paying for online searches.

12) All libraries will be interconnected electronically.

13) Existing libraries will not die a natural death.

14) Libraries are only one of many types of sources people can access for information.

15) Library professionals/managers may be computer illiterate, supervising workers and users who are computer literate.

16) Libraries will not only store and retrieve information but will also combine and repackage it for use by different audiences on different levels.

Issues

There are several issues that will be of concern over the next 15 years:

- Purchase of materials. Libraries will be competing with other providers of materials in supermarkets, bookstores, video stores,

cable, etc. The dramatic growth of video stores, with both rental and purchase of materials provides an interesting contrast. To what extent will libraries compete, or will they abandon segments of the market?

- Information Access. Will information access stores be as readily available as money machines, bio-rhythm machines or other vending machines? Will we see people depositing quarters in an information access machine to get the answer to a question, just as they do with the new trivia machines?

- Information Production. The library must recognize its role as a producer of information. New technology allows information to be packaged in a wide variety of ways to appeal to the tastes and intellectual abilities of any client. Information can be produced on demand, using different language and reading levels. Information computers interacting with graphics computers can generate an illustrated information piece, also on demand.

- Format Variety. Libraries need to consider information in all its formats: media of all types (print and non-print); electronic data, and transfer of existing print data to machine held data, capable of being manipulated. Libraries also need to consider the potential uses of the instant transfer of print to machine readable form and of information search and retrieval of electronically held "symbols" and graphics just as we now search and manipulate traditional language and words.

- Electronic Format Only. What are the implications for people and libraries when certain materials are available only in electronic format? It is probably true that books will always be available for recreational reading; however, as past generations have moved from slates to books and paper, we move to personal applications of computer technology. There is little doubt that we will soon be able to download from our own pocket storage devices to our electronic home and office filing systems. What will this mean to the book?

To establish the role of information handling in the year 2000 and how it will relate to libraries in particular, we need to conduct additional research about the ways people access information. We need to understand how people learn in that private moment of internalizing information. The traditional way of learning information contained in books may not apply. Current technology allows us to manipulate data in ways we have never had before and at a cost that was unthinkable five years ago. This ability to manipulate data of all kinds, in all formats, will impact dramatically on how people deal with information.

The issue of whether people will want to access information directly or have an "intermediary" -- reference librarian/information specialist/information counselor -- is an interesting one. We need to know more about people and how they work with information. User friendly equipment is one of the keys. Even if the president of a company does not have (or need) constant computer access to information on her desk, her secretary or administrative assistant will--right outside the door.

If systems are designed so that they are user friendly and driven by verbal commands, the work station at the office and the access center at home will be the fundamental ways of gathering information for the affluent by the year 2000. Also, if one looks at the development of voice-activated electronic equipment, one may not need to touch a keyboard or a screen to search a database for information. One may merely ask a question while looking at the access center. The sophistication of the user is probably more important than the level that one occupies in an organization or whether one can access the electronic library itself.

The foregoing describes some issues that libraries may have to face because of computerization of information resources and because of developing market forces. Still, we need to consider the fact that humans will be pretty much the same in 2000 as they are in 1985, and that institutions have a remarkable ability to perpetuate themselves and their operations even if they are not the most economical or effective.

We also need to consider the history of libraries -- particularly publicly-supported libraries—in being "the people's university", and the strong tradition in this country of libraries providing access to information for rich and poor alike.

In projecting the look of New Jersey's libraries for the year 2000, we try to strike a balance between an optimum computerization scenario and an optimum personalization scenario, taking into account the current patterns in New Jersey and the planned activities we already know about.

PROJECTIONS OF LIBRARY SERVICES IN NEW JERSEY

The status of the five goal areas currently being furthered is projected in 2000 to be:

1. Basic Library Services:

Local libraries of all types (academic, institution, public, school, special) will continue to be the first point of contact for individuals. Local libraries will play an increased role as a community center.

2. Access/Networking

Individuals will have a statewide access card, and can use any local library, regional center or other information source. They can access information from any source through their home computer. Access cards will be coded in degree of access to materials or information (e.g., proprietary corporate information) and credit level for fee-based services.

Regional information centers will provide access to specialized materials in various formats, with access to world-wide data bases.

3. The State Library

Continues to act as a major resource library and coordinator of statewide library services. Develops and monitors protocols for access to regional, national and world information sources.

4. Funding

Overall proportions should be 65 percent local, 25 percent state, and 10 percent federal, though proportions for different types of libraries will vary. Local funding should support housing, operation and traditional services of local library. State funding should support interactions among libraries, access to specialized information sources, and operators of regional centers. Federal funds should support interstate and national programs, innovations and experimental projects.

5. Planning

Involvement of library users as well as service providers will continue to be important. Specific mechanisms for that involvement will change as needs change.

REFERENCES

1. Naisbitt, John. Megatrends: Ten New Directions Transforming Our Lives. New York: Warner Books, 1982.

2. John Cotton Dana: The Centennial Convocation. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1957.

3. Better Libraries for New Jersey. A report of the New Jersey Commission to Study Library Services in New Jersey. Trenton, N.J., 1956.

4. Martin, Lowell A. and Gaver, Mary V. Libraries for the People of New Jersey or Knowledge for All. New Brunswick, N.J.: New Jersey Library Association, Library Development Committee, 1964.

5. New Jersey Library Association. Networks for Knowledge or Mobilizing Libraries for the People of New Jersey. A report prepared by the Library Development Committee of the New Jersey Library Association. Trenton 1977.

6. A Developing State Plan for Library Services. Trenton N.J.: New Jersey State Library, 1980.

7. The Development of Libraries and Network. A report of the New Jersey County & Municipal Government Study Commission. Trenton, N.J., 1980.

8. New Jersey Library Association. Report of Standards Subcommittee; Review of New Jersey State Requirements for Public Libraries Per Capita Aid Program. Prepared by the Subcommittee on State Aid Standards. Trenton, N.J., 1979.

9. Zweizig, Douglas, and Rodger, Eleanor Jo. Output Measures for Public Libraries: A Manual of Standardized Procedures. Chicago: American Library Association, 1982.

10. New Jersey Blueprint for School Media Programs. Trenton, N.J.: New Jersey State Library, 1979.

11. White, John F. Master Plan for Higher Education in New Jersey. Trenton, N.J.: New Jersey Department of Higher Education, 1970.

12. American Library Association. Standards for Library Functions at the State Level. A report prepared by the Subcommittee for Library Functions at the State Level of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies. Chicago: American Library Association, 1985.

13. Naisbitt, John. John Naisbitt's Trend Letter (Washington, D.C.), IV, No. 15, July 25, 1985.